

**REMARKS**

In the specification, the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent Office.

An English translation of PCT/EP03/06498 is enclosed herewith.

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from the claims. In addition, the preliminary amendment is made to remove the phrase "characterized in that."

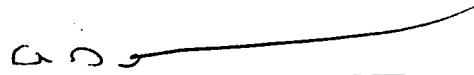
It is believed that no new matter is introduced by this amendment, and entry thereof is requested. On entry, claims 14-22 are active in this application.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's primary attorney-of-record, Andrew D. Sorensen (Reg. No. 33,606), at (651) 306-5810.

Respectfully submitted,

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